1942

OFFICE OF THE
RECTOR

Loyola College
Montreal Canada

June 1st, 1942.

RECTOR'S REPORT

FORTY-SIXTH CONVOCATION OF LOYOLA COLLEGE

It is a very great pleasure for me to welcome you here to the 46th Annual Commencement Day exercises. We are always sincerely happy to receive at Loyola the faithful Alumni and loyal friends of our School.

The student enrolment during the past year was the highest in the history of Loyola. A slight decline in the College registration was more than compensated for by the increase in the High School classes. The work of the students during the year reached a satisfactory standard.

The Academic display of last April - in which students from all classes took part - and the Elocution contest last month were highly praised by the many parents who were present.

To the Dean of Studies, Father Swain, and to his devoted co-workers, it is a pleasure to pay here the tribute of admiration and gratitude they so richly deserve. That their painstaking efforts have not been in vain is clearly proved by the satisfactory results of the examinations just concluded.

Keen interest was shown by the students in the Public Speaking classes and in debates. They debated in the Inter-University Debating League, and in the Montreal Debating League, winning nine of their twelve public debates.

In April, the major play of the year, "Who Ride on White Horses", was presented with great success to capacity audiences on three evenings. The kind remarks of many friends who were present naturally pleased

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Colonel Long is leaving us for a field of wider military service. We regret his going, for his stirling qualities not only as a military leader but also as a Catholic gentleman are deeply appreciated at Loyola.

Colonel E.G. O'Brien who has been intimately connected with our C.O.T.C. from its earliest days and who has retained an active interest in the unit has kindly consented to resume his former post as Officer Commanding. Official confirmation of this appointment has not yet been received.

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us, but the enthusiasm of the students themselves gave perhaps greater satisfaction. It was clear proof that they appreciate serious drama. The play was unusual in type and difficult to produce, yet the production was in every way worthy of a Catholic College.

The members of the Sodality of Our Lady continue their work with undiminished fervor. Besides the ordinary exercises of devotion for their own sanctification, they carry on many works of charity for which they are noted. They have now an added stimulus to their good works in the Sodality Chapel which has been redecorated and furnished through the generosity of many friends.

Our Officers' Training Corps has continued intensive military training under the capable command of Colonel Long, our guest speaker this evening. Page 1a After a successful summer camp at St. John's, Quebec, the C.O.T.C. moved into its new quarters that had been built during the summer. The total strength of the Unit this year has been three hundred and twelve for all ranks. Twelve members left for Brockville last week to take the Officers' course there. Upon its completion, they will be commissioned in the various arms of the active Army. Loyola men are doing their full share to help their country in its hour of need. The names of 488 Loyola boys on active service have been verified. It isfairly certain that the total is well over 600. We congratulate our Alumnus, Lieutenant Tellier, who has been awarded the George Medal for Valour.

In active service, as Chaplains, are six former professors: Fathers McNeil, Penfold, Smeaton, Chabot, Savoie and McGarry. Father McGarry, of this year's staff, was only last week appointed Chaplain to the R.C.A.F. Two other members of this year's staff have been asked to devote their scientific knowledge to war work, and they have been granted leave of absence for the duration:- Mr. John Cavanaugh and Mr. Mark Lonergan.

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It is with regret that we pay tribute to the memory of those on our Honour Roll: Commander Roy, Alexander Casgrain, Louis Dubuc, Patrick Griffin, Edward Kennedy, Thomas Kirkwood, Albert Lewis and Sarto Gain.

We wish another Alumnus could know that we remember him this evening - Pilot Officer Edmund Asselin, who is now a prisoner of war in Germany. In spite of anxious inquiry, no official report has been received to date about Francis Power, who was on active service at Hong Kong.

At the beginning of the school year, the Loyola Air Cadet Squadron was formed under Commanding Officer Danaher. The total strength of the squadron is 275; ten Students have, so far, qualified as non-commissioned officers.

The Loyola Alumni Ladies' Auxiliary again sponsored an excellent series of lectures highly appreciated by their audiences.

To bring about closer co-operation between the parents of our students and the members of the Faculty, the Loyola Mothers' Guild was founded last November. Mrs. J.O. Asselin was elected President. The Guild held several very successful meetings during the year.

Our students have acquitted themselves well in athletics. Keener interest was shown in the organization of inter-class contests and all students were given the opportunity to take part in games. Our students impressed all by the excellent spirit they showed in all competitive sport. An enthusiastic boxing tournament took place last month. A very successful Field Day was held last Saturday.

We were pleased to welcome to dinner at the close of the Athletic year the Fathers of our students. The Father and Son Banquet is now an established custom at the College.

We feel justly proud of the results of an extensive and accurate review made during the year, of our College graduates for the ten year period, 1930-40. This review was based upon transcripts of marks

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obtained from the Universities our graduates attended. During the ten year period, thirteen entered Diocesan Seminaries and eighteen joined religious orders. In the major University courses, we have the following results:

In the Faculty of Law, twenty-six received their degrees, two are still pursuing their studies and five failed. In this Faculty, notable honours were won by seven of our graduates.

In the Faculty of Medicine, seventeen finished their course, ten are still engaged in their medical work; there was not a single failure. And in this Faculty special honours were won by six of our graduates.

In the Faculty of Science and Engineering, ten received their degrees, six are completing their course; five failed and discontinued. Special honours were conferred on eight of our graduates.

In Dentistry, three finished and two are successfully continuing. In this Faculty, one of our graduates obtained signal honours.

In Commerce, nine entered at McGill and other Universities. Seven obtained their degrees. One is still in course and one failed.

It was established that during the 10 year period 1930-40, of all our graduates who went on for University studies 90.6% have been successful. In other word 9 out of every 10 successfully completed their post-graduate courses. Without doubt this is a remarkably high percentage.

At McGill University this year three of our graduates completed courses in engineering, law and medicine: we offer them our congratulations. Gerald Johnson won a research fellow-ship, a scholarship, honours and was first in metallurgical engineering. Brock Clarke won

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first class honours and a gold medal in Civil Law. Gerald Lippert graduated in medicine with high credits.

Results of our old boys in other universities have not yet been received.

We should like to take this opportunity to express our thanks to our many benefactors and to those who continue faithfully to subscribe to the Maintenance Fund. Through their generosity, for Loyola has no endowment other than the free services of its Faculty, the College has been able to continue its work, and to offer facilities for higher education to many who could not otherwise afford it.

And now a final word to those young men whose College career is being crowned this evening. Our fondest wishes and prayers are yours as you leave Loyola. May you be ever faithful to the high ideals with which we have endeavoured to inspire you.

We know well enough the dangers and uncertainties that lie ahead in this time of crisis, but we have confidence in you.

May you stand before the world as Catholic men of whom your teachers and your College may always be proud.

May God bless and protect you.